



Advancing Access Webinar – Helping your students to navigate the student finance process in England



The Student Loans Company



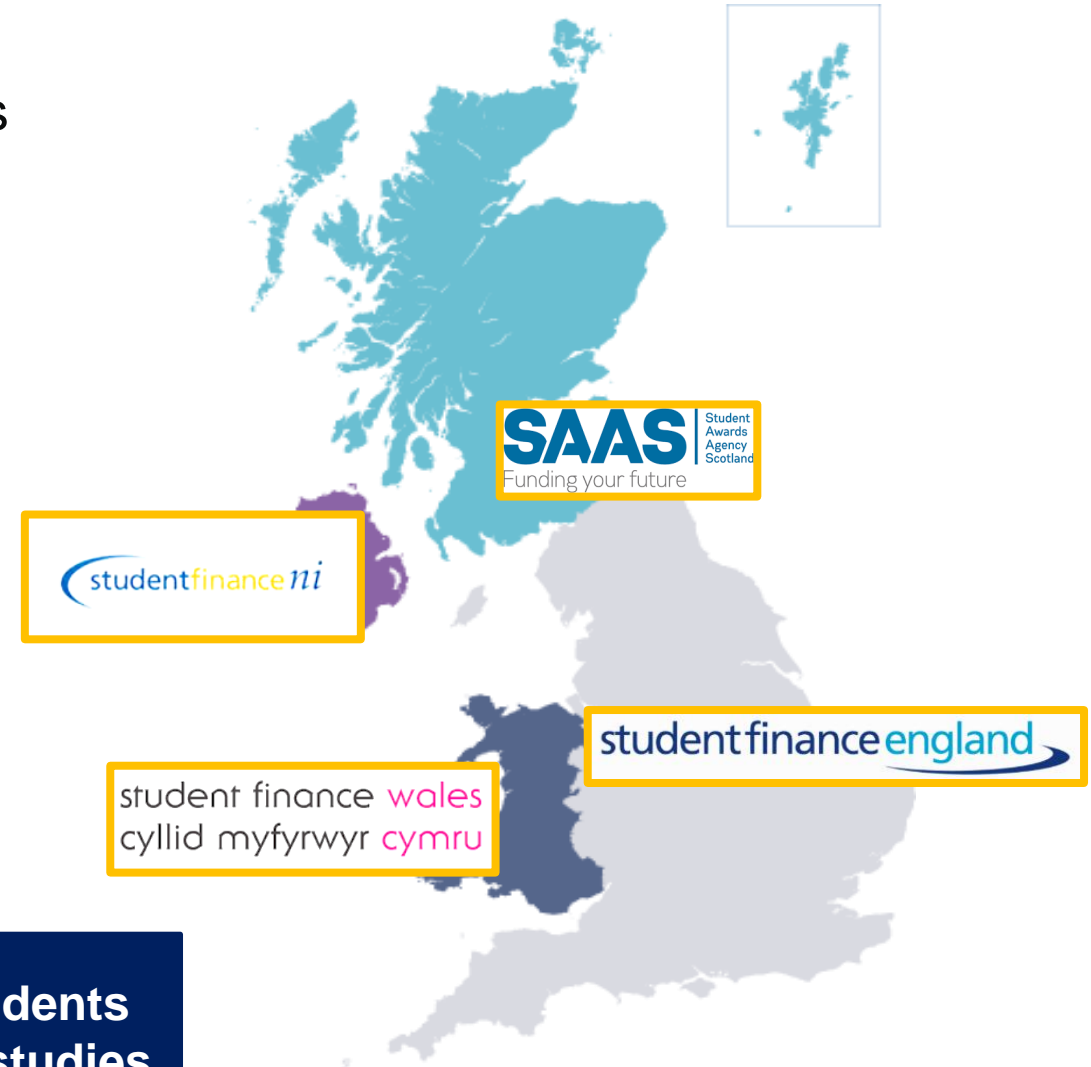
The **Student Loans Company (SLC)** is a non-profit making government-owned organisation that administers loans and grants to students in colleges and universities in the UK. Depending on where they live, your students should apply to either

[Student Finance England](#)

[Student Finance Wales](#)

[Students Finance Northern Ireland](#)

[Student Awards Agency Scotland](#)



Did You Know? Every year, approximately 1.8 million students apply for student support for their university and college studies

Funding for University



Student Loans Company

**TUITION FEE
LOAN**

**MAINTENANCE
LOAN**

**EXTRA
SUPPORT**

Maximum tuition fees for 2023/24 in England will be maintained at the levels that applied in 2022/23 academic year. The sixth year in succession that fees have been frozen and maximum fee levels will be frozen for until 2024/25

Maximum tuition fee for standard **full-time courses** offered will remain at **£9,250**
Maximum tuition fee for standard **part-time courses** offered will remain at **£6,935**

Key Points to Note :

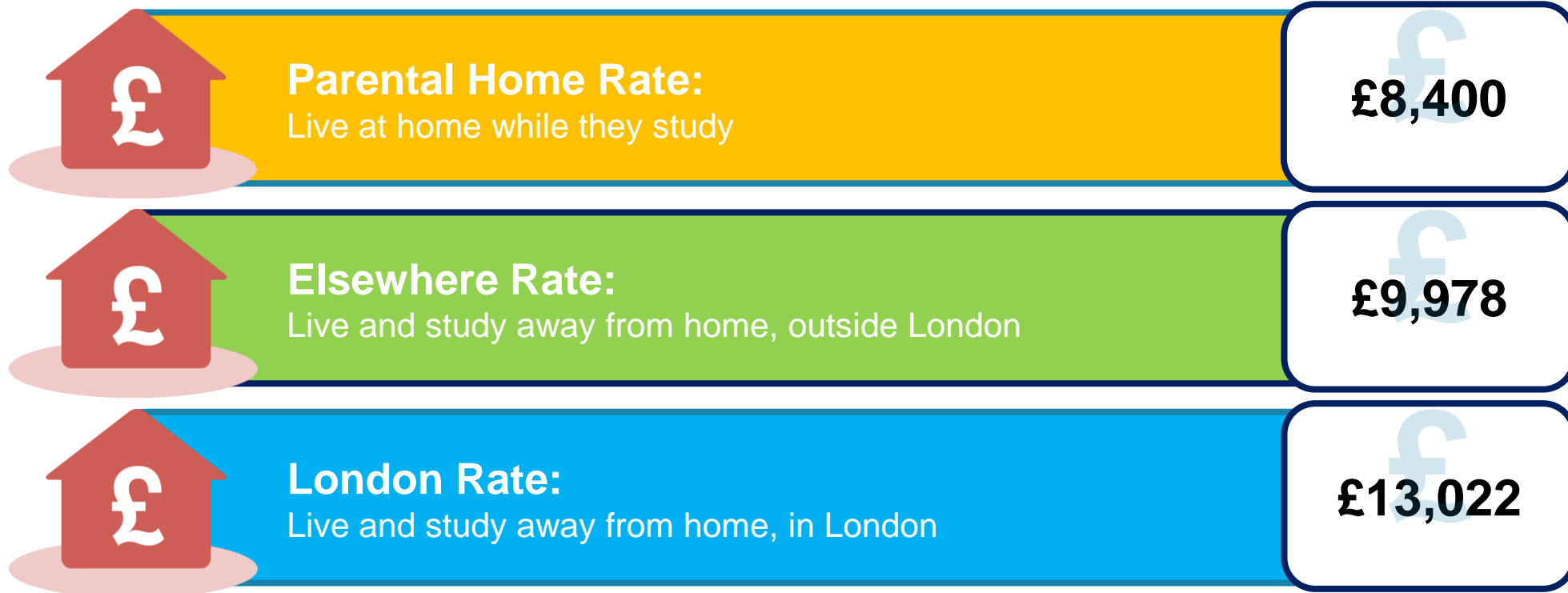
- Tuition Fee Loans are **non means tested** (we don't need parents income for this bit!)
- Loans are paid **directly to the university** on behalf of the student
- Most of the 1.6m students every year apply for the **maximum loan available (£9250)**
- It is the easy part of the application – just ask your student to tell us which university they intend to go to - and how much they wish to borrow (usually students tick 'max')



Maintenance Loans – Max



Full-Time SFE students, not eligible for benefits or aged over 60



i Different rates of Maintenance Loan are available to full-time students who are entitled to benefits or aged over 60 before the first day of their course

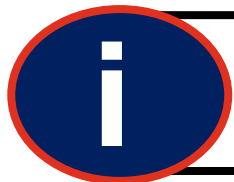
2016 cohort FT students, not eligible for benefits or aged over 60

Full Year Student*	Maximum Loan	Non-Income Assessed	Income Assessed
Parental Home	£8,400	£3,698	£4,702
Elsewhere	£9,978	£4,651	£5,327
London	£13,022	£6,485	£6,537
Overseas	£11,427	£5,524	£5,903

*Lower amounts available for final year students

Full-Time SFE students, not eligible for benefits or aged over 60

Household Income	Parental	Elsewhere	London
£25,000 & under	£8,400	£9,978	£13,022
£35,000	£6,988	£8,552	£11,571
£45,000	£5,576	£7,125	£10,120
£55,000	£4,163	£5,699	£8,668
£65,000	£3,698	£4,651	£7,217
£75,000	£3,698	£4,651	£6,485



Students and Parents can get an estimate of loan entitlement using the calculator on:
www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator

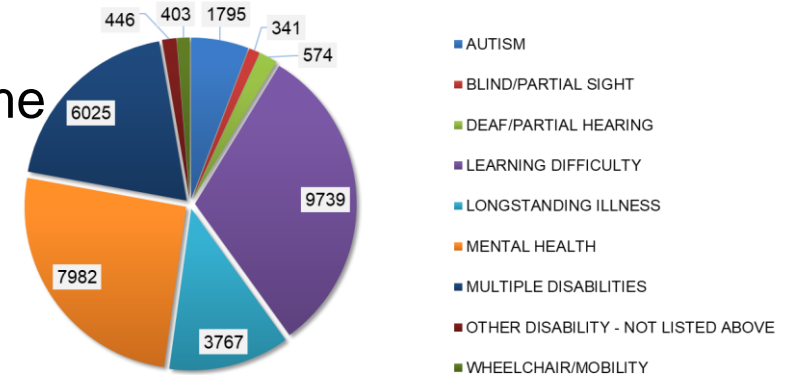
TUITION FEE
LOAN

MAINTENANCE
LOAN

**EXTRA
SUPPORT**

DSAs Support:

- Is available in addition to the standard student finance package
- Does not have to be repaid and is not affected by household income
- Looks at the specific needs of the individual student
- Around 35,000 students every year access additional support
- Can be applied for at the same time as tuition and maintenance support
- Declaring a disability on the UCAS form will not reduce a student's chances of being accepted by any university or college. Conversely, it will open up access to additional support from both university and Student Finance England



There may also be **extra financial support** available for students who:

- Have children or adult dependants. If any students have children or an adult who depends on them financially, they may be able to get extra help. This includes the possibility of getting a [Childcare Grant](#), [Parents' Learning Allowance](#) or [Adult Dependants' Grant](#). These grants are paid in addition to any 'standard' maintenance support and don't usually have to be paid back
- SLC pay any **Parents' Learning Allowance** or **Adult Dependants' Grants** to directly the students bank account in three instalments, usually at the same time as any other student finance (**Childcare Support** is paid directly to the childcare provider)
- Study overseas as part of their UK based course or go on a clinical placement
- Many universities and colleges offer **bursaries and scholarships**, which can depend on things like academic results, course choice or household income

Students undertaking any of these NHS courses can get extra funding directly from the NHS...

- dental therapy or dental hygiene (*level 5 and 6 courses*)
- dietetics
- midwifery
- nursing (*adult, child, mental health, learning disability, joint nursing, social work*)
- occupational therapy
- operating department practitioner (*level 5 and 6 courses*)
- orthoptics
- orthotics and prosthetics
- paramedics (*DipHE and FD courses are not eligible for NHS LSF*)
- physiotherapy
- podiatry or chiropody
- radiography (*diagnostic and therapeutic*)
- speech and language therapy

£5000 Training Grant every year

£2000 Parents Support every year

£1000 Specialist Subject every year

Hotel Costs

Hardship Fund

Travel Costs

The Application Process – Preparation is Key!



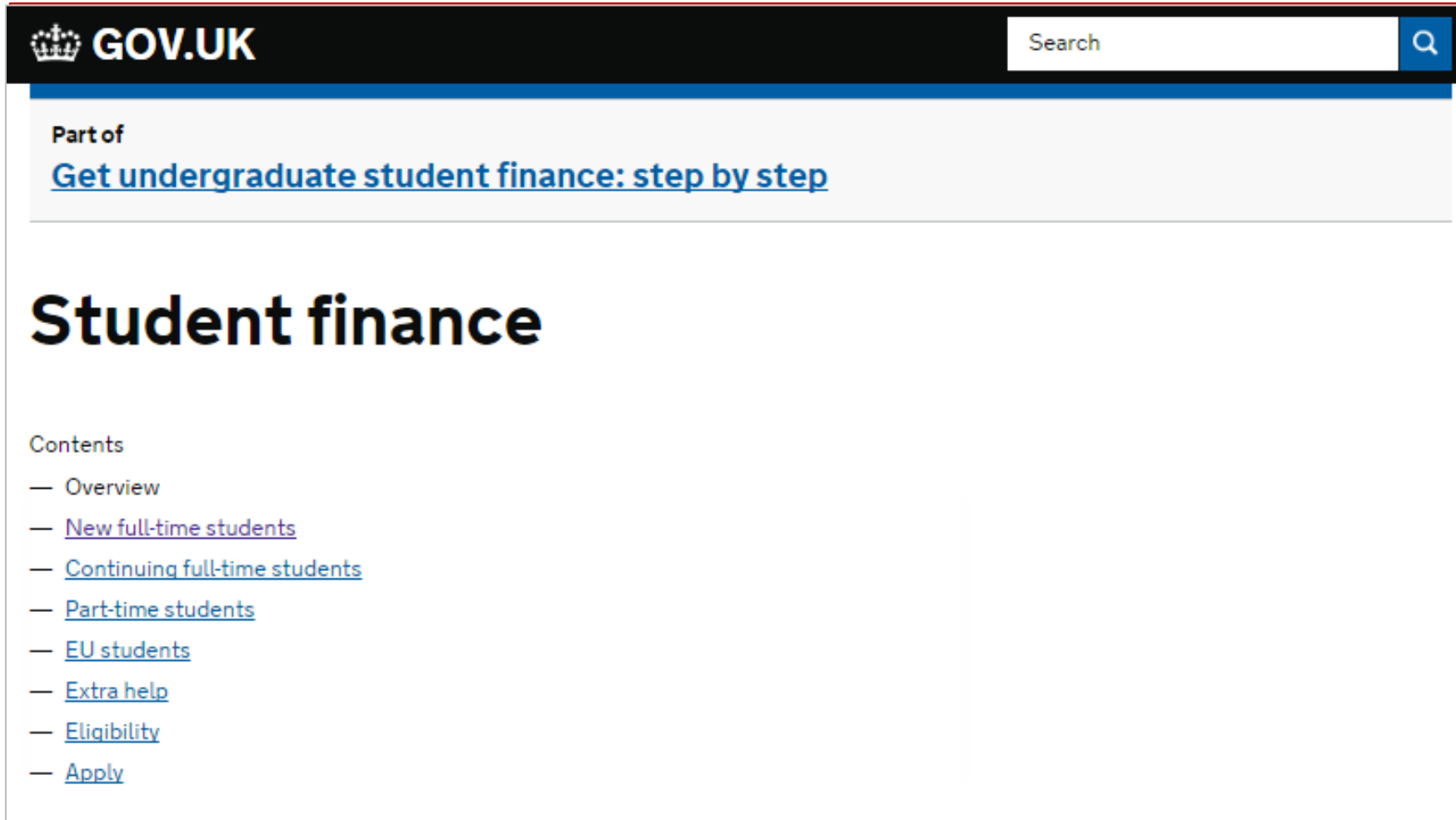
Student Loans Company

Each year, too many students apply late for their finance and could have no way to pay for courses or accommodation at the start of term...**don't let that be the young people that you work with!**

Tips to help student finance get paid on time:

- Students do not need a confirmed place at university or college to apply
- Apply with first/preferred choice, changes and updated can be made later if necessary
- **Parents, will be asked for income details for tax year ending April 2022. However, if that is not accurate anymore (usually due to redundancy or retirement) SFE/SFW can reassess. [Details here.](#)**
- Make sure any evidence and information needed to support the application is supplied '**right first time**' both from students and their parents (or partner)
- Read, **understand and agree** to the loan **Terms and Conditions**

More information about student finance can be found on GOV.UK and across the SFE social media channels:
www.gov.uk/student-finance

A screenshot of the GOV.UK website page for 'Student finance'. The page has a black header with the GOV.UK logo and a search bar. Below the header, there is a blue bar with the text 'Part of Get undergraduate student finance: step by step'. The main heading is 'Student finance' in large, bold, black font. Below the heading, there is a 'Contents' section with a list of links: Overview, New full-time students, Continuing full-time students, Part-time students, EU students, Extra help, Eligibility, and Apply.

GOV.UK Search

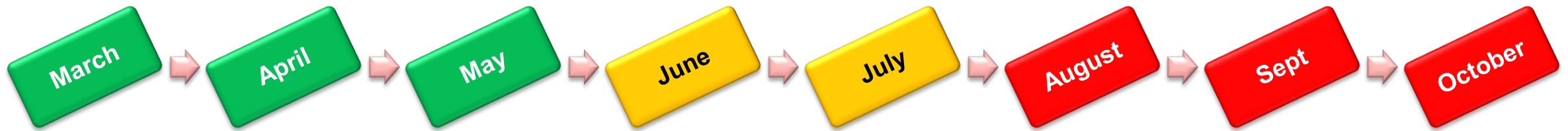
Part of
[Get undergraduate student finance: step by step](#)

Student finance

Contents

- Overview
- [New full-time students](#)
- [Continuing full-time students](#)
- [Part-time students](#)
- [EU students](#)
- [Extra help](#)
- [Eligibility](#)
- [Apply](#)

Timeline – Remind your Students



APPLY NOW AT www.gov.uk/slc

Check your account

Does what you have match what you expected to get?

Fully means tested?

Got additional support sorted?

Contingency Planning?

SFE will release basic amount (so everyone starts with something) and top it up later.

But you should be prepared

- Official guaranteed payment deadline for applications is end of May
- Applications for extra NHS support opened on 1st April 2023 – apply now!
- Important for students with disabilities to apply by the end of June in order to get support in place for Day 1
- Students with children tend to apply later – they can apply for additional grants and childcare funding at the same time as tuition fee and maintenance loan support

STEP 1 – CAN I ACCESS SUPPORT?

- **Nationality**

We give funding to **UK nationals**, **EU nationals** and nationals from the **rest of the world** with eligible immigration status. [For a detailed guide click here](#)

- **Residency**

Funding is allocated based on where the student is ordinarily resident. In most cases we ask for evidence of residency history for **the last three years (that would be Sept 2020 – Sept 2023)**. If any students have lived outside the UK in that time (or outside the EU if they are applying as an EU applicant), don't panic and speak to us on 0300 100 0607

- **Previous Study**

Most students enter university for the first time. If students have studied before, they should speak to the university or college support teams to make sure that they can be funded (again). There are exceptions to this general rule including **NHS courses**, **ITT courses** and some additional **full time** and **part time** courses. [For a detailed guide click here](#)

STEP 2 – HOW MUCH SUPPORT CAN I GET?

In some instances, students will not be financially supported by their parents or a partner. In such instances, they could be classed as an independent student when SFE work out loan entitlement:

- www.ucas.com/finance/student-finance-england/finance-independent-students

To be **classed as independent**, students need to be aged 25 or over on the first day of the academic year or meet one of the other criteria, including:

- Are or have been married/in a civil partnership
- Have care of a person under the age of 18
- Supported themselves financially for 3 years before the start of their course
- Have no contact with or are **estranged** from their parents (standalone.org.uk)
- Are a **Care Leaver**, looked after by a local authority (propel.org.uk)

Applications : “How To” for Students and Parents



A guidance page has been added to GOV.UK providing an answer to some of the most common questions asked on student finance and applications. Essential messages are provided for each subject along with a [selection of short films](#) and links to additional information or resources

GOV.UK

Home > Higher education administration

Guidance

Student Finance England – ‘How to’ guide

This guide will provide you with answers to the most common questions that un us.

- Contents
- [Checking the status of your application](#)
 - [Change your university, college or course details](#)
 - [If you're asked to upload evidence for your student finance application](#)
 - [Cancel a student finance application](#)
 - [Registering on your course](#)
 - [Update your bank details in your online account](#)
 - [Check your payment schedule and amounts](#)
 - [Support a student finance application with your household income details](#)
 - [If you're asked to upload evidence to support a student finance application](#)
 - [Find out who can get student finance, how much you can get and how to apply](#)
 - [Reset your log in details](#)
 - [Update your contact details](#)

How to change your student finance application

PLAY ALL

How to use your Student Finance online account

7 videos • 5,758 views • Last updated on 23 Aug 2022

This playlist will show common processes you'll need to complete when applying for student finance and take you through them step-by-step.

You don't need to call us to track your application, reset your password, update your personal details or provide evidence. Sign in online: <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-re...>

Student Finance England

SUBSCRIBE

- 1 How to change your student finance application (2:17)
- 2 How to upload evidence (1:32)
- 3 How to check the status of your application (1:49)
- 4 How to check your payment schedule (1:32)
- 5 How to reset your password and secret answer
- 6 How to up personal d
- 7 How to ch steps

This is your application summary page!

You can track everything from when you submit your application to when you receive payments.

Before you track your application, make sure to complete any outstanding actions.

Applications : “How To” for Students and Parents



Providing SFE with the right evidence in the right way at the right time can seem confusing for many students and their parents or partners:

To address this we have created [guidance and a short film](#) to explain evidence requirements and submission, including digital upload

The screenshot shows the GOV.UK website interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for Departments, Worldwide, How government works, Get involved, Consultations, Statistics, and News and communications. Below this, a breadcrumb trail indicates the current page is under 'Coronavirus (COVID-19) | Rules, guidance and support'. The main content area is titled 'Guidance' and features a large heading: 'Guidance for students, parents and partners providing evidence to support a student finance application'. Below the heading, a short paragraph states: 'If you apply to Student Finance England for help with your studies for an undergraduate full-time course, you, your parent(s) or partner may be asked to supply evidence.'

The screenshot shows a video player interface. At the top, it says 'Watch our step-by-step tutorial on how to upload evidence to your online account!'. Below this, there is a video player with the title 'How to upload evidence' and a play button icon. In the top right corner of the video player, there is a 'Copy link' button. At the bottom left, there is a 'Watch on YouTube' button.

Repayment – New Plan 5



Student Loans Company

From academic year 2023/24, loan repayment policies for undergraduate students in England will be changing and key facts about how repayments will work include:

- Students won't have to make repayments until their income is **over a set threshold**, which will be **£25,000 a year** until **April 2027**
- From April 2027 the threshold is set to **rise annually** with inflation (RPI)
- Those studying a full-time course will be due to **start repaying** from the April after completing the course or leaving/withdrawing from higher education
- Students will repay **9%** of any income earned **over the threshold** and if employed in the UK, the deductions will be made directly from salary through the tax system
- If student income drops **below the threshold**, repayments will stop and any outstanding balance will be written-off **40 years** after entering repayment

Repayment – Plan 5 (2023/24)



Approximate repayment amounts based on the **initial** Plan 5 threshold of **£25,000** using the applied deduction rate of **9%** of income earned over the threshold:

Income each year before tax	9% will be deducted from	Monthly Repayment (Approx)
£25,000	£0	£0
£35,000	£10,000	£75
£40,000	£15,000	£112
£45,000	£20,000	£150
£50,000	£25,000	£187

Income
£28,000

9% Deducted
from?

Monthly
Repayment?

Cost of Living Considerations

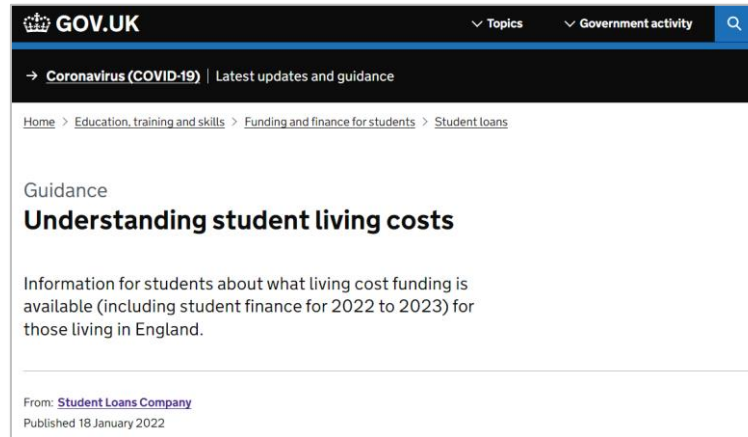


Student Loans Company

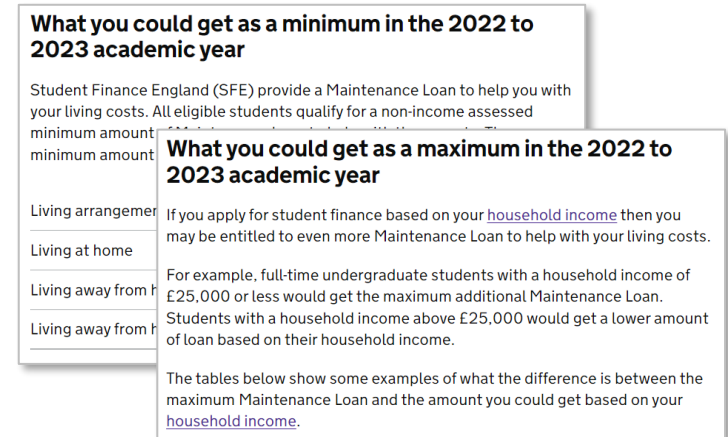
A GOV.UK page has been designed to help students consider the range of living costs they may face and understand the funding they can access.

The information covers means testing, budgeting, sources of additional support and links to useful resources, including [Student Space](#)

Specific advice has been updated for students who are experiencing financial hardship.



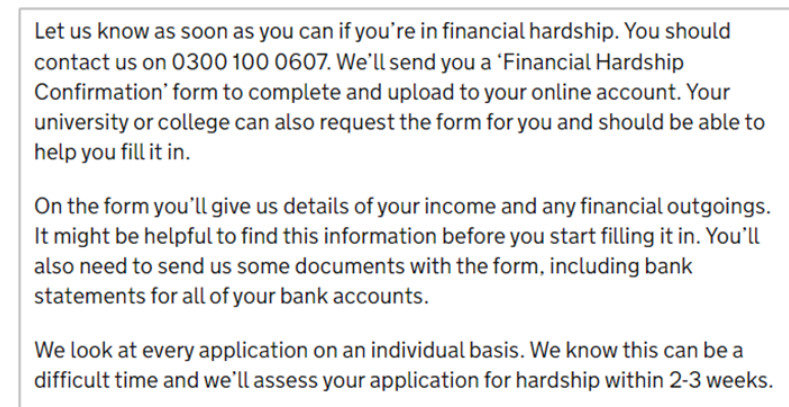
The screenshot shows the GOV.UK website page titled "Understanding student living costs". The breadcrumb trail is: Home > Education, training and skills > Funding and finance for students > Student loans. The page content includes a sub-heading "Guidance" and the main title "Understanding student living costs". Below this, it states: "Information for students about what living cost funding is available (including student finance for 2022 to 2023) for those living in England." At the bottom, it says "From: Student Loans Company" and "Published 18 January 2022".



The screenshot shows the GOV.UK website page titled "What you could get as a minimum in the 2022 to 2023 academic year". The breadcrumb trail is: Home > Education, training and skills > Funding and finance for students > Student loans. The page content includes a sub-heading "Guidance" and the main title "What you could get as a minimum in the 2022 to 2023 academic year". Below this, it states: "Student Finance England (SFE) provide a Maintenance Loan to help you with your living costs. All eligible students qualify for a non-income assessed minimum amount." To the right, there is a table with two columns: "Living arrangements" and "What you could get as a maximum in the 2022 to 2023 academic year". The table rows are: "Living at home", "Living away from home", and "Living away from home". The text to the right of the table explains that if you apply for student finance based on your household income, you may be entitled to even more Maintenance Loan. For example, full-time undergraduate students with a household income of £25,000 or less would get the maximum additional Maintenance Loan. Students with a household income above £25,000 would get a lower amount of loan based on their household income. Below the table, it says: "The tables below show some examples of what the difference is between the maximum Maintenance Loan and the amount you could get based on your household income."



The screenshot shows the GOV.UK website page titled "What to do if you're in financial hardship". The breadcrumb trail is: Home > Education, training and skills > Funding and finance for students > Student loans. The page content includes a sub-heading "Guidance" and the main title "What to do if you're in financial hardship". Below this, it states: "Guidance on what to do if you're struggling financially as a result of your student finance entitlement being reduced, because you were overpaid."



Let us know as soon as you can if you're in financial hardship. You should contact us on 0300 100 0607. We'll send you a 'Financial Hardship Confirmation' form to complete and upload to your online account. Your university or college can also request the form for you and should be able to help you fill it in.

On the form you'll give us details of your income and any financial outgoings. It might be helpful to find this information before you start filling it in. You'll also need to send us some documents with the form, including bank statements for all of your bank accounts.

We look at every application on an individual basis. We know this can be a difficult time and we'll assess your application for hardship within 2-3 weeks.

Cost of Living Consideration – Financial Hardship



Once it has been established that a student is eligible to apply for financial hardship, advisers will provide them with the Financial Hardship Form:

The form will be sent via email and this option will be offered to students in the first instance as this is the quickest way to get it to them. The explanatory email will contain a link to the Financial Hardship Confirmation Form and will advise the student of the steps to take to complete and return it

Students can [find information on financial hardship](#) and how to request and submitting Financial Hardship forms on the GOV.UK guidance page

FHC Financial Hardship Confirmation form **sfe**

Section 1 - Your Information

PLEASE READ THE SECTION BELOW CAREFULLY BEFORE FILLING OUT THE FORM

1. Who should complete this form?
Complete this form if you feel you are facing financial hardship. This may be due to:

- An overpayment of student finance
- Suspending or withdrawing from your course
- Needing a payment brought forward to cover expenses

Firstly - please check our guidance page www.gov.uk/student-finance/extra-help to make sure you've applied for any funding you may be eligible for. You should also speak to your university or college, or organisations like Citizens Advice www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money as they may be able to offer help and advice in addition to what we can offer.

2. What help is available?
You may be able to get help such as:

- Deferring all or part of your overpayment
- Having your funding extended while you've suspended or withdrawn from your studies
- Getting a payment brought forward

3. What information do I need to provide?
You need to give us some personal details and let us know what you need help with. We need some information about your income and expenses so we can review your account. We also need some evidence to show your finances such as copies of your bank statements.

We know some information may be sensitive so please provide what information you can to help us to understand your circumstances. We look at all requests on a case by case basis and these are strictly confidential.

4. What if I have further questions?
If you have further questions, you can:

- contact us through the live chat facility on your online account at www.gov.uk/student-finance-register-login
- call us on 0300 100 0607

5. Where do I send my form?
Once you have completed this form, upload it to your online account with copies of your supporting evidence.
If you're a postgraduate student you need to return it by post. All forms returned by post should be sent to: Student Finance England, PO Box 210, Darlington, DL1 1R4.
To find out how we'll use the information you provide go to www.gov.uk/studentfinance to read our Privacy Notice before completing this form.

Section 3 - Your Circumstances

Please provide some information about your circumstances. The information you provide will help us to quickly process your application.

3.1 - Which one of the following options best applies to you?

- I have an overpayment on my account, and I'm still in study or have recently graduated - go to 3.2
- I have suspended my studies - go to 3.3
- I have withdrawn from my course - go to 3.4
- I require an early payment - go to 3.5

3.2 - Overpayments

Are you currently attending your course? Yes No
Is it more than 6 weeks until the first day of your course? Yes No
Have you already had a payment deferred within the academic year? Yes No
now go to section 4

3.3 - Suspension

Are you completing exams or coursework without attending your course? Yes No
now go to section 4

3.4 - Withdrawal

Have you been awarded a Maintenance Grant, Parents' Learning Allowance or Adult Dependents' Grant? Yes No
now go to section 4

3.5 - Early Payments

Is it more than 30 days until the first day of your course? Yes No
Are you at risk of becoming homeless? Yes No
Do you have any dependents that rely on you financially? Yes No
Do you have support from family members? Yes No
Do you have a student finance payment due within the next 11 days? Yes No
Have you already received an early payment in this academic year? Yes No
now go to section 4

Section 11 - Evidence Checklist

Complete the following checklist to help you make sure your form is complete.

- I have included my bank statements for all my bank accounts.
- I have included evidence for any income or expense I've declared that does not appear on my bank statement.
- I have included additional notes for all expenses where I could not provide evidence.
- I have listed all debts and included evidence where appropriate.

Section 12 - Declaration

I confirm that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information I am providing is true and complete.

Your full name (in BLOCK CAPITALS)

Your signature (in ink) Today's date (DDMMYYYY)
X / /

Complete the following checklist to help you make sure your form is complete.

If the form is being uploaded through your online account, you do not need to sign the declaration. If the form is not uploaded through your own online account, or sent to us by post, you must sign and date the declaration or it can't be accepted.

What happens next? What you need to do next

Once you have completed this form, upload it to your online account with copies of your supporting evidence. Please note that if you're a postgraduate student you need to return it by post.

To upload your form and evidence

1. Sign into your student finance account at www.gov.uk/student-finance-register-login
2. Select undergraduate
3. Select the most recent academic year
4. Select 'upload supporting documents' under the 'your student finance' heading
5. Upload clear copies of your form and supporting evidence

All forms returned by post should be sent to:
Student Finance England
PO Box 210
Darlington

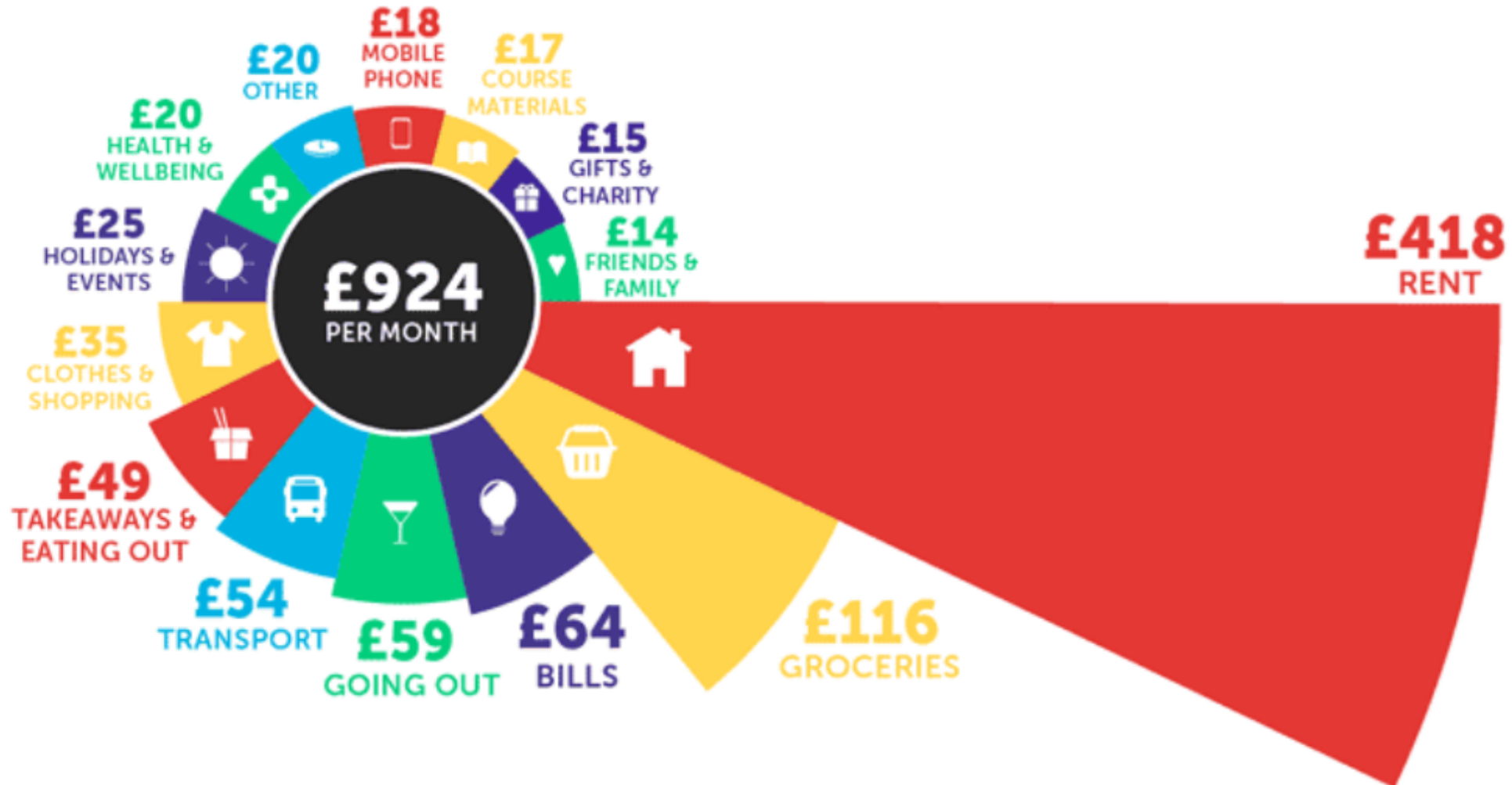
Consider the Costs...



Student Loans Company

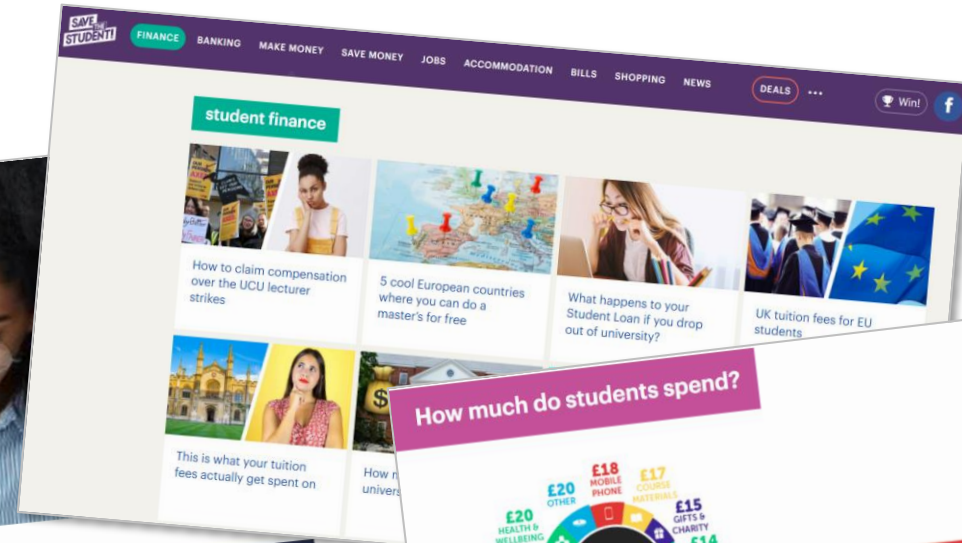
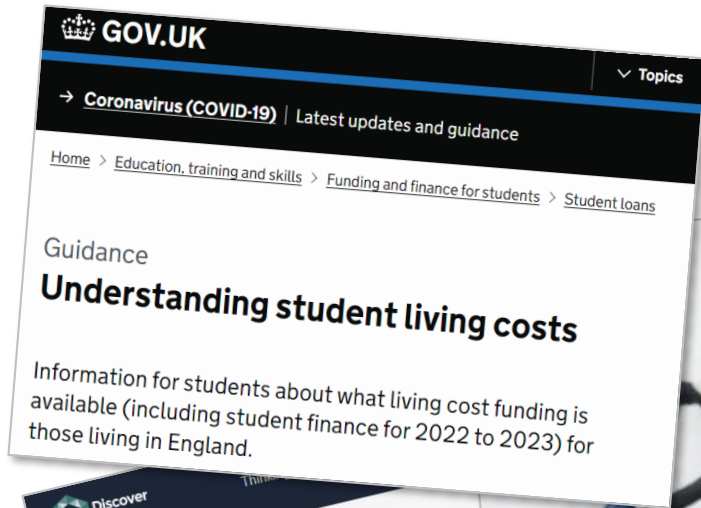
Step 1 - Consider the Costs...

Students across the UK spend an average of **£924 each month**, but on what?

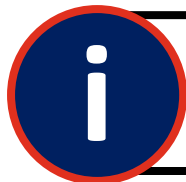
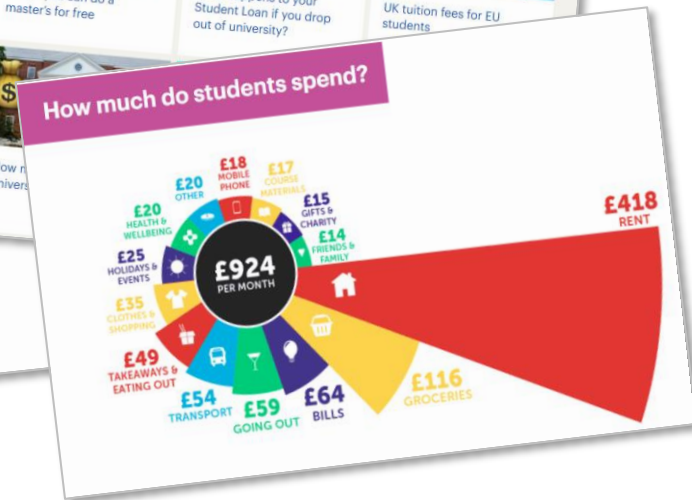


Figures from [Savethestudent.org](https://www.savethestudent.org) Student Money Survey

Step 2 – ...Consider your Income



Student budgeting planner
Tools and tips to get your budget in order



Many university and college websites also feature helpful student finance guidance, budget planners and knowledge of local costs and expenses

There is a lot of information available on student finance, from applying to repayment, but it is vital to understand what it will mean to **YOUR STUDENTS** and remember 3 kev points...

 #1 #2 #3



For further information on student finance,
applications and repayment

www.gov.uk/studentfinance

For a range of helpful tools and guidance,
visit the SFE student finance zone

www.thestudentroom.co.uk/studentfinance